

# Form CRS - Client Relationship Summary January 2021

## Introduction

Our firm, Divergent Planning, LLC, is an investment adviser registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission. We feel that it is important for you to understand how advisory and brokerage services and fees differ in order to determine which type of account is right for you. There are free and simple tools available to research firms and financial professionals at <a href="www.investor.gov/CRS">www.investor.gov/CRS</a>, which also provides educational materials about investment advisers, broker-dealers, and investing.

## What investment services and advice can you provide me?

We are a registered investment adviser that offers investment advisory services to clients. Our advisory services include Portfolio Management and Financial Planning & Consulting.

If you open an advisory account with our firm, we'll meet with you to understand your current financial situation, existing resources, goals, and risk tolerance. Based on what we learn, we'll recommend a portfolio of investments that is monitored at least quarterly, and if necessary, rebalanced to meet your changing needs, stated goals and objectives. We'll offer you advice on a regular basis and contact you at least annually to discuss your portfolio.

You can select in our agreement whether we are allowed to buy and sell investments in your account without asking you in advance ("discretion") or only after receiving your permission ("non-discretion"). If you select non-discretion, you make the ultimate decision regarding the purchase or sale of investments. Any limitations will be described in the signed advisory agreement. We will have discretion or non-discretion until the advisory agreement is terminated by you or our firm.

We do not restrict our advice to limited types of products or investments.

Our Portfolio Management service includes Financial Planning & Consulting for no additional fee if you have a household balance of \$500,000 or more. This requirement may be waived on a case-by-case basis for current clients.

Financial Planning & Consulting is also offered as a separate service for a flat fee. We do not monitor your investments for the Financial Planning & Consulting service.

Additional information about our advisory services is in Item 4 of our Firm Brochure, which is available online at https://adviserinfo.sec.gov/firm/brochure/285688.

#### **Questions to Ask Us:**

- Given my financial situation, should I choose an investment advisory service? Why or why not?
- How will you choose investments to recommend to me?
- What is your relevant experience, including your licenses, education and other qualifications? What do those qualifications mean?

# What fees will I pay?

You will be charged an ongoing quarterly fee based on the value of the investments in your account. Our Portfolio Management fee schedule ranges from 1.45% to 0.60% depending on the value of the investments in your account. Our fees vary and are negotiable. The amount you pay will depend, for example, on the services you receive and the amount of assets in your account. Since our fees are based on a percentage of assets in your advisory account, we have an incentive to increase your assets in order to increase our compensation.

Our firm's fees will be automatically deducted from your advisory account, which will reduce the value of your advisory account. In rare cases, our firm will agree to send you invoices rather than automatically deduct our firm's fees from your advisory account.

The custodian that holds your assets may charge you a transaction fee when we buy or sell certain types of investments for you. The custodian's transaction fees are in addition to our firm's fees for our Portfolio Management service.



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We charge a quarterly or annual flat fee for our Financial Planning & Consulting service. Flat fees will not exceed \$10,000. We charge an upfront retainer when you sign an agreement for this service.

You may also pay charges imposed by the custodian holding your accounts for certain investments and maintaining your account. Some investments, such as mutual funds, index funds, exchange traded funds, and variable annuities, charge additional fees that will reduce the value of your investments over time.

You will pay fees and costs whether you make or lose money on your investments. Fees and costs will reduce any amount of money you make on your investments over time. Please make sure you understand what fees and costs you are paying.

Additional information about our fees is in Item 5 of our Firm Brochure, which is available online at <a href="https://adviserinfo.sec.gov/firm/brochure/285688">https://adviserinfo.sec.gov/firm/brochure/285688</a>.

### **Questions to Ask Us:**

• Help me understand how these fees and costs may affect my investments. If I give you \$10,000 to invest, how much will go to fees and costs and how much will be invested for me?

What are your legal obligations to me when acting as my investment adviser? How else does your firm make money and what conflicts of interest do you have?

When we act as your investment adviser, we have to act in your best interest and not put our interest ahead of yours. At the same time, the way we make money creates some conflicts with your interests. You should understand and ask us about these conflicts because they can affect the investment advice, we provide you. Here are some examples to help you understand what this means:

Our firm recommends TD Ameritrade as the custodian for client accounts. Since TD Ameritrade provides our firm with economic benefits to assist us with managing client accounts, we have an incentive to continue to recommend TD Ameritrade.

Additional information about our conflicts of interest is in Item 14 of our Firm Brochure, which is available online at <a href="https://adviserinfo.sec.gov/firm/brochure/285688">https://adviserinfo.sec.gov/firm/brochure/285688</a>.

#### **Questions to Ask Us:**

How might your conflicts of interest affect me, and how will you address them?

### How do your financial professionals make money?

Our financial professionals are compensated based on the revenue our firm earns from their advisory services or recommendations, the amount of client assets they service, and the time and complexity required to meet a client's needs.

## Do you or your financial professionals have legal or disciplinary history?

No, our firm and financial professionals do not have any legal or disciplinary history to disclose. Visit Investor.gov/CRS for a free and simple search tool to research our firm and our financial professionals.

#### **Questions to Ask Us:**

• As a financial professional, do you have any disciplinary history? For what type of conduct?

### Additional Information

You can find additional information about our firm's investment advisory services on the SEC's website at <a href="https://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov">www.adviserinfo.sec.gov</a> by searching CRD # 285688. You may also contact our firm at (240) 428-8911 to request a copy of this relationship summary and other up-to-date information.

### Questions to Ask Us:

• Who is my primary contact person? Is he or she a representative of an investment adviser or a broker-dealer? Who can I talk to if I have concerns about how this person is treating me?